

April 19, 2005

April Nineteenth

20-----05

The second regular Meeting of City Council was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: Ruby B. Archie, P. A. "Pete" Castiglione, Jr., E. Stokes Daniels, Mayor John C. Hamlin, Jr., T. David Luther, T. Wayne Oakes, Sherman M. Saunders, H. Phillip Smith, and Vice-Mayor R. Wayne Williams, Jr. (9).

Staff members present were City Manager Jerry L. Gwaltney, Deputy City Manager M. Lyle Lacy, III, Assistant City Manager for Utilities Joseph C. King, Finance Director Aubrey D. Dodson, Newly-appointed Director of Finance Barbara A. Dameron, City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield, Jr., and City Clerk Annette Y. Crane, CMC.

Other Staff Members present were Public Works Director Ric Drazenovich and Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer Kent Shelton.

Mayor Hamlin presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member T. Wayne Oakes offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Hamlin called on retiring Finance Director Aubrey Dodson to come forward. Mayor Hamlin said he knew it was a happy time in Mr. Dodson's life, but a sad time for the City. He asked all Council Members to come forward for a presentation to Mr. Dodson as follows:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in special recognition of distinguished service to the City of Danville, Danville City Council wishes to acknowledge Aubrey D. Dodson, by designating him Director of Finance Emeritus; and

WHEREAS, Aubrey D. Dodson joined the City of Danville Finance Department in March 1970; was promoted to Director of Finance in August 1972; served as Danville City Council Clerk from August 1972 to June 2002; and

WHEREAS, his contributions to the City of Danville will continue long past his retirement date due to his unswerving commitment to the betterment of the

April 19, 2005

community, Danville City Government and the Finance Department; and

WHEREAS, his unsurpassed technical competence, innovative approach to challenges and stewardship of public resources allowed him to earn the respect and admiration of all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, his innate ability to become a mentor to others, his humility and most importantly, his personal integrity has produced a level of quality and fiscal well-being unsurpassed in municipal government operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Danville, Virginia, does hereby proclaim

AUBREY D. DODSON

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE EMERITUS

GIVEN under my hand this 19th day of April 2005.

s/John C. Hamlin, Mayor

Mr. Dodson thanked City Council, City Manager Gwaltney, and all the City's staff for their support over the years. He said no one could stand alone and do their job. He said that he had worked with many people who had complemented him, making his job much easier. He said that was what it was all about, people helping each other. Mr. Dodson said that by helping each other, a product that was bigger than any one could be produced. He thanked Mayor Hamlin and Council Members for the honor.

City Manager Gwaltney said he had never worked with a finer public servant than Aubrey Dodson. He said the integrity and caring that Mr. Dodson had for the City was outstanding. Mr. Gwaltney thanked Mr. Dodson for always being there when he was needed and said his commitment and expertise would be missed.

Mr. Gwaltney presented Mr. Dodson a Retirement Certificate indicating his thirty-six years of service with the City of Danville.

MINUTES

Upon Motion by Council Member Daniels and second by Council Member Smith, Minutes of the April 5, 2005 Meeting of City Council were approved as amended. Draft copies had been distributed to Council Members prior to the Meeting.

HEARING - AUTHORIZE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS - \$5,000,000

Mayor Hamlin opened the floor for a Public Hearing to consider authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds in the

April 19, 2005

maximum principal amount of \$5,000,000 for electric system improvements. Notice of the Public Hearing had been duly published in the Danville Register and Bee on April 12, 2005. No one present desired to be hearing the Public Hearing was closed.

Upon Motion by Council Member Castiglione and second by Council Member Smith, Ordinance No. 2004-04.05 authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the City of Danville, Virginia, in the maximum principal amount of \$5,000,000 for electric system improvements was adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes,
Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

APPOINT HAMPTON WILKINS TO FAIR HOUSING BOARD

Vice-Mayor Williams moved the adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-04.04

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING L. HAMPTON WILKINS AS A MEMBER OF THE FAIR HOUSING BOARD.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member Saunders and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes,
Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

APPOINT SHAHNAZ AHMED TO PUBLIC WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD

Vice-Mayor Williams moved the adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-04.05

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SHAHNAZ M. AHMED AS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member Archie and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes,
Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

APPOINT NANCY WILSON TO THE SOUTHERN AREA AGENCY ON AGING, INC.

Vice-Mayor Williams moved the adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-04.06

April 19, 2005

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING NANCY P. WILSON AS A MEMBER OF THE SOUTHERN AREA ON AGING, INC.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member Archie and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes, Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

HEARING - SALE SURPLUS RIGHT-OF-WAY - END OF MAYO STREET

Mayor Hamlin opened the floor for a Public Hearing to consider the sale of surplus right-of-way at the end of Mayo Street. Notice of the Public Hearing had been duly published in the Danville Register and Bee on April 10 and 17, 2005. No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

Council Member Archie moved the adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2005-04.06

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AND SELLING A 0.219 ACRE OF THE SURPLUS RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED AT THE END OF MAYO STREET.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member Castiglione and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes, Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9).
NAY: None (0).

BUDGET AMENDMENT-FY 2004-2005 - INCENTIVE PACKAGE - TWM CABLING

Upon Motion by Council Member Luther and second by Council Member Oakes, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2005-04.07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUES FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR A CITY TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT GRANT FOR THE TWM CABLING SOLUTIONS, INC. INCENTIVE PACKAGE FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000 AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME

was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

BUDGET AMENDMENT - FY 2004-2005 - CANE CREEK CENTRE PROJECTS

April 19, 2005

Upon Motion by Council Member Smith and second by Council Member Archie, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2005-04.08

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS FROM FUND BALANCES OF THE ELECTRIC AND GAS FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,500,000 AND \$1,000,000 RESPECTIVELY FOR THE CANE CREEK CENTRE PROJECTS AND THE PURCHASE OF THREE DIESEL GENERATORS

was presented by its First Reading, as required by the City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

VDOT-REQUEST BREAK IN LIMITED ACCESS - PARK AVE. & WESTOVER DRIVE

Council Member Archie moved the adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-04.07

A RESOLUTION CLARIFYING A REQUEST TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A BREAK IN THE LIMITED ACCESS ON PIEDMONT DRIVE TO ALLOW FOR A PUBLIC STREET ENTRANCE ON THE EAST AND WEST SIDES OF PIEDMONT DRIVE BETWEEN PARK AVENUE AND WESTOVER DRIVE.

Council Member Daniels seconded the Motion.

Council Member Smith voiced his concern about the site plan that was supplied to Council Members in the agenda package. Mr. Smith said he felt that local government had a vested interest in traffic light positioning, intersection realignments, general traffic flow and accessibility by property owners to public roads. He said he felt uncomfortable with the proposed site plan because he did not believe he had enough information about the exact layout of the road.

Mr. Smith said he was unsure if there was to be one or two entrances to Westover Drive. He said the Riverview Drive entrance and the road that goes from Riverview to Piedmont Drive did not appear to be a public road. Mr. Smith said it appeared to be a road that would be constructed on one property owners land, but did not appear to give access to the road by other property owners. He said he had real concerns about that and would not support the Resolution before Council for action this evening.

Mr. Smith felt Council needed to take another look and consider the traffic flow and the accessibility of the public road.

In response to Council Members Luther and Smith, City Manager Gwaltney said the proposed site plan was a plan that he had requested. Mr. Gwaltney reminded Council that a curb cut there would cost \$1.4 million. Mr. Gwaltney said that in meetings with VDOT, he was informed that the only way to avoid paying the \$1.4 million was to make the road in question a public street. He said

April 19, 2005

VDOT had requested that Council take action to confirm that the new access points would be public streets and not private driveway entrances. Mr. Gwaltney said that area of the City was a prime economic development area and future developers would have to construct roads to the City's specifications. Mr. Gwaltney said the traffic patterns had been reviewed very carefully and he respectfully requested that City Council act on the matter during the meeting tonight.

In response to Vice-Mayor Williams, Mr. Gwaltney said the Resolution before Council for consideration did include curb cuts on both sides.

The Resolution was adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 8-1
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes,
Saunders, and Williams (8).
NAY: Smith (1).

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Gwaltney reminded Council of the Budget Work Session set for Wednesday, April 20, 2005, 5:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center.

Mr. Gwaltney updated Council on the City's computer conversion and the impact the conversion has had on City record keeping. He said that a couple of months ago, he was approached by the Superintendent of Schools relating to paperwork on gas for school vehicles. Mr. Gwaltney said in looking at the records, he felt it was necessary to have the City Auditors take a look. Mr. Gwaltney said a glitch was found in the operations, which entailed about \$100,000 dollars in gas transactions.

In looking further, it was found that there were three different computers transactions in the process and somewhere in those three transfers, the glitches occurred. He said it was believed the problems occurred during the conversion dating back to July 1, 2004. Mr. Gwaltney said the auditor's had found no wrongdoing on anyone's part. He said to date, over half of the \$100,000 had been found and it was believed that the rest would be accounted for when the transaction-by-transaction audit was complete.

Mr. Gwaltney advised he would report back to Council when the audit was complete, projected to be in late May or early June.

There were no communications from the Deputy City Manager and City Clerk.

City Attorney Whitfield congratulated Mr. Dodson for receiving the honor of Director of Finance Emeritus and thanked him for mentoring him when he was a new City Attorney.

April 19, 2005

Mr. Whitfield advised May 2, 2005 is Law Day and that a formal portrait of Circuit Court Judge James Ingram, now deceased, would be unveiled.

ROLL CALL

All Council Members extended their good wishes and congratulations to retiring Finance Director Aubrey Dodson.

Council Member Archie called attention to the new City Council pictures that had been placed at the desk of each Council Member. She requested that Mr. Gwaltney inquire if Council Member names and the years of service could be attached to the pictures.

Mr. Archie reported that she had called words for a spelling bee at Bonner School last Thursday. Mrs. Archie said the activity was the first of this kind she had participated in and enjoyed being with the youngsters.

Council Member Castiglione reported he had attended a Virginia Community College conference last week. He said one focus of the conference was Workforce and Workforce initiatives. Mr. Castiglione said if things go as expected, the President would empower Governors to have more localized options and opportunities for these funds. He felt it was important to begin looking at local needs now to ensure the region was being heard. Mr. Castiglione requested that a Task Force from Danville be set up to ensure the area stayed on top of this issue. He said interchange with the Virginia Municipal League would be helpful.

Council Member Castiglione said Aubrey Dodson had been a great mentor to him, stating Mr. Dodson was always there for him when he had a question about governmental accounting as a new Council Member.

Mayor Hamlin advised there was a Request for Proposals (RFP) in that regard for review of the work programs in the area. Mayor Hamlin said the federal government was recommending that members of a board be set up from among the private sector, with the public sector working closely with that board.

Council Member Daniels quoted from the Public Works Newsletter as follows: "a key part of doing the right things right is to show up for work on time and to work productively throughout your entire shift." Referring to the proposed increase in utility fees and sanitation user fees, Mr. Daniels said the public would expect nothing less from City employees.

Mr. Daniels quoted from the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Newsletter relating to use of sick leave. Mr. Daniels said he would be discussing sick leave at length during the Work Session scheduled for tomorrow evening at the Senior Center.

Mayor Hamlin encouraged Council Members to continue to walk using the DrChips Step Meter. He said the first report on number of

April 19, 2005

steps walked was due on Wednesday. City Council has challenged the Pittsylvania County Board to Supervisors to see which governing body could take the most steps over the next several weeks.

Mayor Hamlin congratulated incoming Finance Director Barbara Dameron and stated he looked forward to working with her.

Council Member Luther said he felt that Aubrey Dodson's attention to detail would be something he would remember most about Mr. Dodson.

Mr. Luther thanked the administration for looking into the gasoline matter and said it was good an aggressive stand had been taken in investigating what has proven to be a computer glitch.

Council Member Smith said the \$5,000,000 in utility bonds would be used for major improvements at Cane Creek Centre. He said this was very necessary for future economic development endeavors.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

MAYOR

CLERK